

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03960 022344Z

15

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 FEA-01

AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 ERDA-07 FPC-01 PM-04 SAM-01

OES-05 /170 W

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R 022301Z SEP 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1680

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMISSION USEC BRUSSELS

USDEL MTN GENEVA UNN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS USUN 3960

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNGA EGEN IR

SUBJ: UNGA 7TH SPECIAL SESSION: GENERAL DEBATE SPEECH BY

IRANIAN MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, JAMSHID AMUZEGAR

1. SUMMARY: JAMSHID AMUZEGAR, IRANIAN MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, DEVOTED MOST OF HIS SPEECH TO A FAMILIAR BUT STRONG AND THOROUGH VINDICATION OF OPEC PRICING POLICIES AND A CONDEMNATION OF WHAT HE CALLED THE "HYPOCRISY" OF THE DEVELOPED WORLD. HE CLEARLY ALLUDED TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S STATEMENT OF SEPTEMBER 1. HE CONCLUDED WITH BRIEF REMARKS ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND A RENEWAL OF IRAN'S OFFER TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL FUND TO PROVIDE "GRANT-IN-AID" ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 USUN N 03960 022344Z

2. NOTING THAT THE "OIL POLEMIC" HAD "BECOME MORE STUBBORNLY

PARTISAN, RECENTLY," AMUZEGAR RIDICULED ATTEMPTS BY INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES TO SINGLE OUT THE ACTIONS OF THE OIL EXPORTING STATES AS THE MAJOR CAUSE OF THE CURRENT WORLD ECONOMIC CRISIS. HE ARGUED THAT TO CRITICIZE MERELY THE OIL PRODUCERS CARTEL "SMACKS EITHER OF A MONUMENTAL HYPOCRISY OR A WOEFUL IGNORANCE OF THE WORLD'S INDUSTRIAL TECHNO-STRUCTURE" BECAUSE SUCH CRITICISMS IGNORE NOT ONLY THE PREVIOUS CONTROL OVER OIL PRICES EXERCISED BY THE OIL COMPANIES BUT ALSO THE FACT THAT THE SALE OF EVERY MAJOR PRODUCT WAS AFFECTED BY OLIGOPOLIES. AMUZEGAR FURTHER FAULTED DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR FAILING TO PRACTICE WHAT THEY PREACHED BY NOTING HOW THEIR UNILATERAL ACTIONS "SHOOK THE VERY FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD MONETARY SYSTEM." THESE ACTIONS CONTRADICTED THE PRINCIPLE THAT "NO COUNTRY OR GROUP OF COUNTRIES SHOULD HAVE EXCLUSIVE POWER IN THE AREAS BASIC TO THE WELFARE OF OTHERS," WHICH AMUZEGAR QUOTED DIRECTLY WITHOUT ATTRIBUTION FROM KISSINGER'S SPEECH YESTERDAY. AMUZEGAR CONCLUDED HIS REBUTTAL WITH A FAMILIAR DEFENSE OF THE OPEC LINE: INFLATION AND MONETARY DISTURBANCES IN THE DEVELOPED WORLD PRECEDED THE OPEC DECISION IN DECEMBER 1971; THE INCREASE IN THE OIL PRICE WAS IN RESPONSE TO INFLATION IN THE DEVELOPED WORLD AND NEITHER ACCELERATED INFLATION NOR GENERATED RECESSION; THE OPEC ACTION WAS A LEGITIMATE ATTEMPT TO END "MERCILESS EXPLOITATION OF THEIR PRECIOUS DEPLETABLE RESOURCES;" AND THE SIZE OF THE SURPLUSES OF THE OIL EXPORTING COUNTRIES WAS SMALL IN COMPARISON TO THE VALUE OF THE FIXED ASSETS OF THE MAJOR OPEC COUNTRIES.

3. NOTING THAT THERE WAS STILL SOME OPPOSITION "INDICATIVE OF BIASED AND PREJUDICED MINDS" TO IMPROVING THE LDC'S TERMS OF TRADE AND TRANSFERRING RESOURCES TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AMUZEGAR WONDERED WHETHER THE THEME OF THE SESSION SHOULD NOT READ "DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL CONFRONTATION." NEVERTHELESS HE DID CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION BASED ON TWO PRINCIPLES: (1) THE PRICE OF RAW MATERIALS AND PRIMARY COMMODITIES SOLD BY DEVELOPING STATES SHOULD BE "GEARED" TO THE COSTS OF WHAT THEY NEED TO BUY, AND (2) THE INTERESTS OF ALL MEMBER NATIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. HE ALSO NOTED AS "ENCOURAGING" RECOGNITION BY THE OECD MINISTERS AT THEIR LAST MEETING OF THE NEED FOR A DIALOGUE WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND OF THE NEED TO EXTEND THEIR CON-

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 USUN N 03960 022344Z

CERN BEYOND ENERGY AND OIL TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS SUCH AS COMMODITIES, FINANCING AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, AND HELP FOR THE MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES. HE IMPLICITLY CALLED ON OECD MEMBERS TO REVERSE THE DECLINE IN THEIR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE BY NOTING THE HIGH LEVELS ACHIEVED BY OPEC COUNTRIES (ALLEGEDLY TWO PERCENT OF THEIR GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT).

4. IN CONCLUDING, AMUZEGAR RENEWED IRAN'S 1974 OFFER TO

SET UP A SPECIAL FUND TO PROVIDE GRANTS-IN-AID TO POOR COUNTRIES.
THIS FUND WAS INTENDED TO BE FINANCED BY BOTH OIL EXPORTING
AND INDUSTRIALIZED STATES AND GOVERNED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM
THOSE TWO GROUPS AND THE DEVELOPING STATES. HOPING THE IN-
DUSTRIALIZED STATES WILL NOW JOIN IN THIS INITIATIVE,
AMUZEGAR NEVERTHELESS EXPRESSED IRAN'S DETERMINATION
TO GO AHEAD WITHOUT THEIR PARTICIPATION, BUT "HOPEFULLY"
WITH THE SUPPORT OF OTHER OPEC MEMBERS.

5. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND THAT AMUZEGAR WORKED LATE
LAST NIGHT AMENDING HIS PREPARED TEXT TO RESPOND MORE
DIRECTLY TO THE POSITION ON OIL PRICES TAKEN IN THE US
ADDRESS SEPTEMBER 1.
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